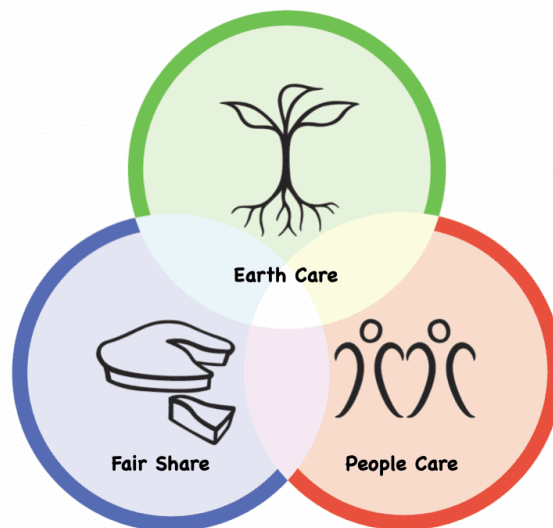


General Charter Ermitaj Malin



The objective of this charter is to state the values and the approaches which are dear to us and which define the bases of Ermitaj.

The fundamental ethical principles that underlie Ermitaj project are **respect, care and benevolence towards our ecosystems and all the elements that make them up** (including people!).

Ermitaj aims to **help individuals and communities move towards a way of life that respects these principles**, in a process of **sharing, solidarity and equity**.

Ermitaj is articulated around **two pillars**: Ermitaj as a **place of living**, and Ermitaj as a **place of learning and sharing**.



A place of life

Ermitaj wishes to be a **place of living** for those who desire **a way of life that respects nature and people**, in a spirit of **simplicity, solidarity** and **sharing**.

The reason is simple: we want a place and a **way of life in accordance with our values and our ethical principles**.

We wish, by living at Ermitaj,

- to **flourish** in a **natural and pleasant environment**, in **harmony with our environment and our values**;
- move towards **resilience and autonomy**;
- and, through living together, promoting **synergies, sharing, mutual aid** and **solidarity**.

A place of learning and sharing

Ermitaj aims to be a place of **training, information, demonstration, experimentation** and **exchange** around all the topics related to **permaculture, agro-ecology, peasant know-how** and **eco-building**.

We believe that today's globalized Western society is neither sustainable nor fair.

Our objective is to **seek, experiment** and **share avenues for change**, with the aim of

- to **inspire others**, by showing them **other ways of doing and living**;
- **instill the desire in others to become a positive actor of change**;
- and **move towards other paradigms, more ecological and fair**.

Governance

- In a spirit of mutual respect, trust and cooperation, we want a participatory and inclusive mode of governance, valuing collective intelligence, and based on accountability and self-organization. This is why we have chosen to base our mode of governance on sociocracy and to favor decision-making by consent (ideally tending towards consensus).



- Communication being a fundamental point in the way we operate, we believe that every individual at Ermitaj has the right to request a meeting to express themselves, ask for help or open a discussion.

Respect and care of our environment

- Ecology is of course at the center of our concerns: we are determined to move individually and collectively, locally and globally, towards a lifestyle that respects the environment, aiming to reduce our ecological footprint by seeking simplicity of life, responsible consumption, sustainable practices, and through the preferential use of renewable resources and materials.
- We also want to respect all forms of life, and to do this, we encourage respectful and reasoned consumption of meat / fish, and we want to ban pesticides and biocides having lasting harmful effects on our ecosystems.
- Material things must also be respected: in an approach of voluntary simplicity, let's take care of what we have, so we won't have to buy back what we already had, or create waste.
- Beyond respecting and preserving our environment, we believe that it is essential to go further, and to be in a process of care, by setting up regenerative practices for ecosystems, in particular thanks to permaculture technics.
- Even more, we want, thanks to an openness to the outside and an awareness-raising approach, this environmentally-friendly way of life to be a source of inspiration for others, in the hope of changing practices and mentalities on a larger scale.

Respect and care for ourselves and others

- Respect for oneself and others and listening to otherness are fundamental principles. As such, we believe it is important to value and respect everyone in their uniqueness, their differences and their own rhythm. Everyone has priorities, affinities with certain aspects of "living together" and "doing together" that we want to take into account.



- To be authentic, to be true - and to act true - implies that we can say things without hypocrisy. To communicate better, we make sure to identify our needs and formulate our requests with respect for ourselves and others, along the lines of non-violent communication.
- In a process of mutual trust, we want to leave as much room as possible for freedom and individual responsibility: the freedom to choose your own rhythm and self-organize, as well as the freedom to undertake, by encouraging initiatives.
- We make sure to find harmony between private and collective life and that our personal problems can be shared without invading the group.
- We attach great importance to moments of sharing and conviviality and we want to establish a climate of trust and benevolence in our daily life.
- Being in a process of constant learning and experimentation, both at the level of living together and of our practices, questioning - both individual and collective - must be seen more as a driving force than as a brake. The same goes for failures, that we see as so many opportunities to progress, as long as lessons are learned from it.

Solidarity

- Between us, we make sure to help each other, in particular through the exchange of services and by favoring non-market exchanges.
- We want to make life easier for ourselves and others by creating and favoring synergies: we believe that by acting together, we can be more creative and effective, and learn from each other.
- On the other hand, any initiative of solidarity and openness to the outside is welcome, in particular by promoting meetings and exchanges, and by participating in local life (cultural, associative, professional, etc.).
- We consider diversity to be an asset, which we want to promote: biodiversity in our ecosystems, but also social, cultural and generational diversity.